

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application

: R. Edward Winters

Parent Serial No. Parent Filed

: 09/846,565 : 04/27/2001

For

: LOW PROFILE EXPANDABLE HOOP SUPPORT

DEVICE FOR FLEXIBLE TUBES

Examiner

: Cheryl L. Miller

Attorney's Docket : REW - 11

Group Art Unit: 3738

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope Honorable Commissioner for addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on 23 ov

Registration No. 29328 Attorney for Applicant

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the matter of the RCE for the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims

Please amend the claims according to the following page.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700